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***Amendments to the Specification***

Please replace paragraph 0001 of the specification with the following:

This patent application is a divisional of application no. 09/949,662, filed  
is now a U.S. Patent 6,727,729  
September 12, 2001, which claims priority to and is entitled to the benefit of:

1. Provisional Patent Application Number 60/232,177 (Attorney Docket No. 1875.0840000), filed September 11, 2000 entitled "Linear Buffer Circuit;"  
and
2. Provisional Patent Application Number 60/232,182 (Attorney Docket No. 1875.0890000), filed September 11, 2000 entitled "SLIC Interface with Linear Buffer Circuit."

These provisional applications are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety.